

Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board

Minutes of Tuesday, November 28, 2023

A meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at the Greater Plymouth Community Center. The meeting began at 6:30 PM.

Board members attending were Chairman Bryan Renneisen, Members Jason Sugalski, Naomi Winchester, and Harshal Dear; Building and Grounds Director Rick Carbo; Council Liaison Karen Bramblett; and Board Secretary Rosemary Winterbottom. Board members Jennifer McCracken, Sharon Dryden and Neil Clark were not in attendance.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

Andrew Conboy was present at the meeting.

1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, October 24, 2023

A motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, October 24, 2023, meeting was made by Jason Sugalski. This motion was seconded by Naomi Winchester and the minutes were unanimously approved.

2. DISCUSSION OF PACKET MATERIALS

The Board reviewed the monthly report for October-2023. There were no comments on the report

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. General Department

No items were discussed.

## B. Parks and Maintenance

### 1. Court Resurfacing — Outdoor Pickleball Courts

Rick Carbo reported that resurfacing of courts will probably be done in the Summer. Courts to be resurfaced include Colwell Park, JFK Park (2 courts), and East Plymouth Valley tennis courts. An outdoor pickleball court location will also be determined and striped.

## C. Wetherill Park

Rick Carbo explained the areas that were paved at Wetherill Park. Areas included the section around the farm area as well as the butterfly garden area. Rick stated that paved areas are easier for maintenance issues. Rick also noted that there is a 14 acre area in the park that is restricted.

## D. Programming

### 1. Holiday Light Contest Timeline

Judging for the Holiday Lights Contest will run from December 8 to December 18, 2023. A list of homes participating will need to be provided to the judges. Harshal Dear discussed the use of Facebook for this contest for public voting. Bryan Renneisen suggested that Harshal speak with Joanna Sharapan regarding the use of Facebook in the future to show pictures of the homes participating. It was noted that participants in the Holiday Lights Contest would probably need to sign waivers for use on Facebook.

### 2. Black Heritage Day

Naomi Winchester reported that a Black Heritage Day exhibit will take place on February 24, 2024. The exhibit will take place in the lobby area of the Greater Plymouth Community Center and will run from 10 AM to 12 Noon.

## 4. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Andrew Conboy, Colonial Canopy Trees, was present to address the Board. Mr. Conboy stated that he is an arborist and is also on the Environmental Advisory Board. Mr. Conboy lives in the township and is interested in collaborating with the Board on projects. His non-profit (Colonial Canopy Trees) does about 20-25 volunteer events per year. His group placed the pollinator garden at Black Horse Park; he has also done work at Harriet Wetherill Park and Bicentennial Park. In response to questioning, Mr. Conboy noted that his group has worked with scout groups and school classes.

Bryan Renneisen suggested that Mr. Conboy contact Rick Carbo to inform him of any of their organizations events in the future so that volunteers could be obtained. Bryan thanked Mr. Conboy for speaking to the Board.

## 5. MISCELLANEOUS

Karen Bramblet provided a Plymouth Township Council update as follows:

— The budget will be voted on at the December 11, 2023 meeting of Plymouth Township Council;

— A recent Town Hall Meeting with PREIT (owners of the Plymouth Meeting Mall) was very well attended. The public is very receptive to saving the Mall;

— PREIT is proposing 300 apartment units in the former IKEA Building near the Plymouth Meeting Mall. It is proposed to install sidewalks, benches, and more green areas to make the area walkable; and

— The Keystone Building (at the Plymouth Meeting Mall) has been approved for 149 apartments, either one or two bedrooms.

## ADJOURNMENT:

A motion for adjournment was made by Jason Sugalski; this motion was seconded by Harshal Dear.

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 6:30 PM at the Greater Plymouth Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rosemary Winterbottom*

Rosemary Winterbottom, Secretary